



HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

All Mount Vernon School District students have the opportunity to complete a set of graduation requirements that will enable them to develop their intellectual and personal potential for a lifetime of learning and for responsible, productive participation in a diverse society. Through completion of a four-year sequence of courses in an identified career interest area, students will acquire the academic foundation and career related skills that will prepare them for advanced study at four-year colleges and universities, community colleges, technical institutions, and/or direct entry into the world of work.

The board shall award a regular high school diploma to every student enrolled in the district who meets the requirements of graduation established by the district. Only one diploma shall be awarded with no distinctions being made between the various programs of instruction that may have been pursued.

The board shall establish graduation requirements that, as a minimum, satisfy those established by the State Board of Education:

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Subjects	Required Credits: Mount Vernon High School		Required Credits: Alternative Learning Programs and Individualized Learning Plans****	
	Classes of 2020-2024	Class of 2025 and Beyond	Classes of 2015-2020	Class of 2021 and Beyond
English	4	4	4	4
Health & Fitness	2	2.5	2	2
Math*	3	3	3	3
Science**	3	3	2	3
Social Studies	3	3.5	3	3
Fine and Performing Arts ***	2	2	1	2
Career and Technical	1	1	1	1
Digital Communications		.5		
Computer Science Elective		.5		
Elective Credits which support the student's Academic/Career Plan and meet future personal and educational requirements	4	8	4	4
World Language or Personalized Pathway Requirement***	2	2	0	2
TOTAL	24	30	20	24

* Algebra 1, Geometry, and a 3rd credit of Math (based on student's interest and High School & Beyond Plan).

** At least 2 lab science courses; a 3rd credit based on student's interest and High School & Beyond Plan, and approved by the parent or guardian, or if the parent or guardian is unavailable or does not indicate a preference, the school counselor or principal.

*** One of the two Fine Arts credits and two World Language credits may be replaced with a personalized pathway requirement.

**** Individualized Learning Plans are intended to address unique student circumstances and must be approved by the Mount Vernon High School Principal and Principal for Alternative Programs.

In addition to the minimum credit requirements, each student must complete:

1. A High School and Beyond Plan: During the 7th or 8th grade each student shall develop a plan for satisfying the state and district's high school graduation requirements and for their first year after high school completion. The plan should be developed in collaboration with the student, parent, and district staff. Each student plan should be reviewed periodically to assess student progress, to adjust the plan, and to advise the student on steps necessary for successful completion of the plan.
3. A Graduation Pathway: For the class of 2021 and beyond students must complete a graduation pathway option to demonstrate college and career readiness. For the class of 2020 or earlier students must earn a certificate of academic achievement or a certificate of individual achievement.

B. The Superintendent shall develop procedures for implementing this policy, which include:

1. Establishing the process for completion of the High School and Beyond Plan.
2. Recommending course and credit requirements that satisfy the State Board of Education requirements and recognize the expectations of the citizens of the district.
3. Determining which courses satisfy particular subject area requirements and whether a particular course may satisfy more than one subject area requirement, including a process for determining the credits the district will recognize for courses taken through another program recognized by the State such as another public-school district or an approved private school, or those courses taken by students moving in to the state from another state or country. Decisions regarding the recognition of credits earned before enrolling in the district will be based on the professional judgment of the high school principal or designee based on an evaluation of the student's former program and demonstrated knowledge and skills in the discipline for which credit is sought. The decision of the principal may be appealed to the Superintendent within fifteen (15) school days.
4. Making graduation requirements available in writing to students, parents, and members of the public.
5. Providing for a waiver of graduation requirements for an individual student when permitted.
6. Granting credit for learning experiences conducted away from school, including National Guard High School Career Training.
7. Granting credit for correspondence, vocational-technical institutes, and/or college courses for college or university course work the district has agreed to accept for high school credit. State law requires that the district award one high school credit for every five quarter hour credits or three semester hour credits successfully earned through a college

or university, except for community college high school completion programs where the district awards the diploma. Tenth and eleventh grade students and their parents shall be notified annually of the Running Start Program.

8. Granting credit for work experience.
9. Granting credit based upon competency testing, in lieu of enrollment.
10. Granting credit for high school courses completed before a student attended high school to the extent that the course work exceeded the requirements for seventh or eighth grade.
11. Counseling of students to know what is expected of them for completion of their schooling.
12. Preparing a list of all graduating students for the information of the board and release to the public.
13. Preparing suitable diplomas and final transcripts for graduating seniors.
14. Planning and executing graduation ceremonies.

A student shall be issued a diploma after completing the district's requirements for graduation. A student shall also be advised that he/she may receive a final transcript.

However, a student's diploma or transcript may be withheld until the student pays for any school property that has been lost or willfully damaged. Upon payment for damages, or the equivalency through voluntary work, the diploma or transcript will be released. When the damages or fines do not exceed \$100, the student or his/her parents shall have the right to an appeal using the same process as used for short-term suspension as defined in Policy 3241, Classroom Management, Corrective Actions or Punishment. When damages are in excess of \$100, the appeal process for long-term suspension as defined in Policy 3241, Classroom Management, Corrective Actions or Punishments shall apply.

Graduation requirements in effect when a student first enrolls in high school shall be in effect until that student graduates, unless systemic changes or emergency circumstances indicate changes to graduation requirements are necessary, or such period is in excess of ten years. Changes to graduation requirements will not have an adverse impact on students' ability to graduate on time.

In the event that other forms of corrective actions are imposed for violations of school rules, the student may be denied participation in graduation ceremonies. Such exclusion shall be regarded as a school suspension. In such instances, the diploma will be granted.



Cross References:	Board Policy 2415	High School Credits Awarded for Competency/Proficiency
	Board Policy 3110	Qualifications of Attendance and Placement
	Board Policy 3240	Classroom Management, Corrective Actions or Punishment
	Board Policy 3520	Student Fees, Fines and Charges
Legal References:	RCW 28A.230.09	High School Graduation Requirements or Reevaluation and Report by State Board of Education
	RCW 28A.230.120	Credit for courses taken before attending high school
	RCW 28A.600.300-400	Post-secondary credit equivalencies
	RCW 28A.635.060	Option to receive final transcriptions
	Chapter 180-50 WAC	Notice: Running Start
	Chapter 180-51 WAC	Defacing or injuring school property - Liability of parent or guardian
	Chapter 180-57 WAC	Liability of parent or guardian
	Chapter 392-169 WAC	Courses of studies and equivalencies
	Governor's Proclamation #20-05 and 28, Emergency Response to COVID 19	High School Graduation Requirements
		Secondary Education Standardized High School Transcript / Running Start

Board Adoption
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